

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

It is respectfully submitted that pending claims 31-37, 39-41, and 43-51, 53, and 55-56 are patentable over the cited art. As to claims 31 and 40, none of the cited references anywhere teach or suggest requesting different levels of authentication information from a user based on a system state indicative of connection to a network. In this regard, the secondary references, Anderson or Godse, nowhere even mention authenticating a user. Further, as to the primary reference Rakavy, all that it teaches is that data sent from a network may include an authentication code. And, the previous Office Action merely pointed to a system block diagram of Rakavy showing a conventional architecture of a personal computer (Final Office Action, p. 5 (citing col. 5, lns. 40-55), and col. 9, lns. 43-56) which nowhere teaches or suggests requesting different levels of authentication information from a user based on a system state indicative of a connection to a network. Thus the cited references nowhere teach or suggest requesting different authentication information levels from a user based on a system state indicative of a network connection. For at least this reason, claims 31 and 40 and the claims depending therefrom are patentable over the cited art.

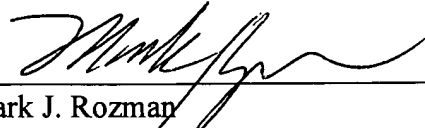
As to independent claim 51, none of the cited references teach or suggest different BIOS modules stored in different storages of a system. While the previous Office Action contends that Rakavy teaches storage of different BIOS modules on different storage devices (Final Office Action, p. 4), Applicant respectfully disagrees. Instead, Rakavy teaches just the opposite, namely that conventional BIOS 500 and network enhanced BIOS 600 are both stored in a single nonvolatile memory 125. Rakavy, col. 6, lns. 21-53; col. 7, lns. 8-13. Thus claim 51 and its dependent claims are patentable.

For at least the same reasons as the independent claims discussed above, new dependent claims 58-63 are also patentable.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mark J. Rozman
Registration No. 42,117
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100
Houston, Texas 77024-1805
(512) 418-9944 [Phone]
(713) 468-8883 [Fax]
Customer No.: 21906
Attorneys for Intel Corporation